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DISPLAY

International MEDLARS Meeting

The fourth meeting of the International MEDLARS Policy Advisory Group was held at the National Library of Medicine on October 27 and 28, 1977. This group consists of the policy-level representatives from NLM and those countries with whom NLM has bilateral *quid-pro-quo* MEDLARS arrangements.

The non-U.S. policy officials were:

Sweden—Dr. Sune Bergstrom, Rektor Emeritus, Karolinska Institutet

United Kingdom—Dr. Harry Hookway, Chief Executive, The British Library Board

France—Dr. Philippe Laudat, Scientific Director, Institute National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM)

Germany—Mr. H. Thimm, Federal Ministry for Youth, Family Affairs, and Health

South Africa—Dr. J. De v Lochner, Vice President, South African Medical Research Council

Canada—Mr. George Ember, Chief, Library and Information Services, Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, National Research Council

Iran—Dr. A. H. Samii, Director, Imperial Medical Center of Iran

Australia—Miss Averill Edwards, Liaison Officer, representing Dr. George Chandler, Director, National Library of Australia

Japan—Mr. Shoichi Oi, Director, Resources Division, Japan Information Center for Science and Technology (JICST)

Mexico—Dr. Francisco Bulnes G., General Director, Centro Nacional de Informacion y Documentacion en Salud, Secretaria de Salubridad y Asistencia

PAHO—Dr. Abraam Sonis, Director, Pan American Health Organization Regional Library of Medicine (Brazil)

These officials were accompanied by the directors of the MEDLARS Centers.

Dr. Martin M. Cummings, NLM Director, welcomed the members of this group. He noted that this represented the 10th anniversary of our first bilateral agreements. These arrangements are based on scientific and technical understandings between NLM and comparable institutions in other countries. Together they constitute in effect an international biomedical communications network.

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, Director of the National Institutes of Health, provided a stimulating opening to the meeting. He discussed an information process in which NIH was becoming increasingly involved—one where a consensus must be developed in a subject area with strong social implications and where scientific, consumer, legal, and public interests are represented in arriving at a consensus position. He illustrated this with the example of breast cancer screening and treatment.

The two-day meeting of the MEDLARS Policy Advisory Group included an overall review and identification of meeting objectives by Mary E. Corning, NLM Assistant Director for International Programs; description of updating the MEDLARS data bases and arrangements by Melvin S. Day, NLM Deputy Director; and a series of presentations by the foreign partners of their operating policies, experiences, and future plans.

Issue papers were presented on document delivery by Dr. Philip Holmes of England; data base building by Dr. Henry Kissman, NLM Associate Director for Specialized Information Services; and regional networks by Dr. Sixten Abrahamsson of Sweden. Two of the most important topics addressed were regional and international services and networking.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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Audiovisual Services in Region II

An NLM Medical Library Resource Project Grant awarded several years ago has been the focus for additional development of AV services throughout New York and New Jersey (Region II).

The grant initially helped the Medical Center of the George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences, College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, to develop audiovisual outreach services to other health sciences libraries in New York and New Jersey. These services have included: interlibrary loan of media; distribution of audiovisual cataloging information; reference and consulting; workshops; and publication of a newsletter and a union catalog. Growth of hospital library audiovisual services in New Jersey has been forthcoming as a result of College of Medicine and Dentistry activity.

The Regional Medical Library Advisory and Planning Committee's Audiovisual Subcommittee in Region II has used the experience gained from the College of Medicine and Dentistry program as a guide for projecting region-wide services. Subsequent NLM grants are helping to stimulate audiovisual services throughout the Region. Awards have been made to SUNY at Buffalo, SUNY Upstate Medical Center at Syracuse, and the Albany Medical College. All of these programs have a strong outreach component, and all are designed to be compatible with the goals of the Region as a whole.

The primary goal of the Project at SUNY (Buffalo) is to develop a health media resource center for western New York, supplementing the existing print material services. Similarly, the Upstate Medical Center (Syracuse) AV program will eventually serve not only that institution, but the 15-county central New York area as well. Albany Medical College has begun to provide multimedia services to health-care facilities and health education institutions in the "Albany Area" composed of 17 counties.

Generally speaking, these newer programs are patterned after the one started by the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Their major activities include software collection development, consultation, coordination, reference services, interlibrary loan, cataloging, workshops, and the development of a Region-wide union list of software.

For further information on Region II audiovisual services, contact Lynn Kasner or Vernon Bruette at the New York and New Jersey Regional Medical Library, New York Academy of Medicine Library, 2 East 103rd Street, New York, NY 10029, (212) 876-8763.

Recent Lister Hill Center Reports*

Interactive TV Network Anatomized

Almost a decade of experience in planning, building, and operating a two-way, interactive medical television network is summarized in a report prepared for the Lister Hill Center now available from the National Technical Information Service.[1]

Interact, the New Hampshire/Vermont Medical Interactive Television Network,

* By Harold A. Wooster, Ph.D., Special Assistant for Program Development, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications.

[1] Seibert, Dean J.: *Interact: a decade of experience using a two-way closed circuit television for medical care and education.* Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, New Hampshire. April 1977. Final report under Contract N01-LM-4-4704. Available from NTIS, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 as PB 275-518/AS for $7.25 ($3 microfiche).

began in 1968 with a 30-mile two-way television link between Dartmouth and Claremont General Hospital. This link was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health to explore the possibilities of using television to provide psychiatric consultation.

In 1970 NLM's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications entered into the first of a series of research and development contracts with Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, New Hampshire. Since then, NLM contract funds were used to expand the services offered over the Dartmouth/Claremont link; build and operate an interstate microwave network connecting the medical schools of Dartmouth College and the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, with fixed stations also at Claremont General Hospital and the Central Vermont Hospital, Berlin, Vermont; acquire a van and the mobile microwave equipment to serve three additional sites (Claremont Vocational Technical College, Rockingham Memorial Hospital, and the Vermont Correctional Facility); and make the transition from a field trial to a fee-for-service operational network.

The report focuses on planning, management, production, and evaluation issues which have been encountered. It is highly recommended reading for those who have, or may wish to have, their own television network.

Trilogy Completed

From September 1971 through May 1975 the Lister Hill Center together with two universities—the Ohio State University College of Medicine and Harvard University (Massachusetts General Hospital)—and a communications contractor (Tymshare, Inc.), built and operated a national time-sharing computer-assisted instruction network. (A third university, the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago, withdrew from the network in March 1974.) In June 1975 operation and funding of the network was assumed by a user consortium, the Health Education Network Users Group.

Documentation of the birth, life, and metamorphosis of the Center's Experimental CAI Network is now essentially complete. A Lister Hill Center staff member had published an administrative history of the network[2] as seen from Bethesda. Now Massachusetts General Hospital and the College of Medicine, Ohio State University, have published their final reports.[3, 4]

The three reports are mutually complementary. Those who used the network should be interested in learning more about the forces that combined to make it possible for them to enjoy computer-assisted instruction in their own institutions. For, as Ms. Farquhar of Massachusetts General Hospital writes (*3*, p. 3):

"The individuals who learned about the existence of the Experimental CAI Network and whose institutions became approved users were innovative medical educators. The backgrounds of the contact persons at user institutions varied greatly and included medical librarians, computer center directors, basic medical science faculty, clinical faculty, and educational technologists. In every case in which an institution became an active user, the contact person was a respected member of the academic community, was supported by the administration, and was an effective agent for change. The contact people were patient, persistent, perspicacious; they have earned the respect of the medical community and the respect of this contractor."

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[2] Wooster, H.: An experiment in networking: the LHNCBC Experimental CAI Network, 1971–1975. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*. 27, 329–338. 1976.

[3] Farquhar, B.B., Barnett, G.O., Hoffer, E.P., Famiglietti, K.T., Richardson, C.J. and Prather, P.A.: *Final report for the Experimental Computer-Assisted Instruction Network* (July 1972 through May 1975). Laboratory for Computer Science, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School. NLM-LHC-77-05. Final report under contract N01-LM-2-4716. 89 pp. Available from the National Technical Information Service as PB 269-174/AS for $5.00 ($3 microfiche).

[4] Pengov, R.E. with Beran, R.L. and Folk, R.L.: *OSU Participation in the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications Experimental Network*. Division of Computing Services for Medical Education and Research, College of Medicine, the Ohio State University. NLM-LHC-77-06. Final report under contract N01-LM-2-4717. 141 pp. Available from the National Technical Information Service as PB 275-523/AS for $10.75 ($3 microfiche).

Hospital Librarians, NLM Staff Discuss Mutual Interests

Eleven hospital librarians met at NLM on January 30–31 to discuss the needs of hospital libraries and the relationship between those institutions and the NLM. The librarians came from hospitals in all 11 regions (see *News*, December 1977, for the list of invited participants). Melvin Day, NLM Deputy Director, chaired the meeting.

In welcoming the librarians, NLM Director Martin M. Cummings, M.D., described the two-way benefits of such a meeting. By learning more about the problems faced by hospital librarians, NLM will be able to further strengthen its programs to serve better this very important community. Conversely, by becoming more familiar with NLM operations, the hospital librarians will be better prepared to take advantage of the services offered by NLM. The ultimate goal, Dr. Cummings noted, is improved information service to the user; the intermediate goal is to make hospital libraries an effective conduit for this service.

A series of papers on important topics was prepared and distributed in advance of the meeting. Each subject was addressed by both a hospital librarian and an NLM staff member. These topics included: hospitals and NLM on-line services; expanding data bases relevant to hospitals; SERLINE and other locator tools; the realities of hospital funding; Federal support for interlibrary loans; copyright; training for health librarians; grants for library consortia; and audiovisual needs in hospitals.

The discussions on these topics were frank, friendly, and informative. The hospital librarians were not reticent about airing their problems and they made a number of specific suggestions on how NLM might help. Among the points touched on: the adequacy of coverage, vocabulary, and retrieval formats for certain NLM publications; the need for convenient ways to bring previously trained MEDLINE searchers up-to-date; help in developing union lists; how to enlist the support of hospital administrators; the need for changes in the Resource Improvement Grant program to make its benefits more widely available; help in identifying other sources of support for hospital libraries; improved mechanisms for sharing information among the Regions about training activities for hospital librarians; and the desirability of having hospital librarians represented in NLM's advisory apparatus for grants review.

The above list is by no means exhaustive, for the two-day discussions generated many suggestions—some quite technical, others of a policy nature. NLM has committed itself to consider carefully each suggestion.

On the opposite page is a statement issued by the hospital librarians.

A summary report of the hospital librarians conference may be obtained by writing to Peter Clepper, Extramural Programs, National Library of Medicine.

Jane A. Lambremont (left), librarian at the Earl K. Long Hospital in Baton Rouge, chats with Judith Messerle of St. Joseph Hospital in Alton, Illinois, and Michael Torrente of the Southeastern RML during a coffee break at the Hospital librarians meeting.

Summary Statement of Hospital Librarians

January 31, 1978

The hospital librarians who have attended this conference wish to thank the staff of the National Library of Medicine most sincerely for giving us this opportunity to bring you our views on a wide variety of subjects of interest and concern to all. NLM's thoughtful planning and preparations for this meeting have enabled us, we feel, to have an extremely fruitful interchange. We especially appreciate the warmth and cordiality with which we have been welcomed, the open-minded manner in which you have received our views, and the frankness with which you have responded to them.

We find, at the conclusion of this conference, that our concerns for the future with respect to hospital-NLM relations revolve around two general subject areas. The first, and most basic, is communications. We are extremely eager that the open, face-to-face, two-way dialog that has now been begun between the staff of the National Library of Medicine and representatives of the hospital library community be continued, perhaps through annual conferences such as this one. Since the environments in which we function and the places from which we come are so different, we feel that regular opportunities for direct communication are necessary if we are to achieve the genuine understanding of one another's problems and concerns that is essential for progress. We are also hopeful that channels of communication will be opened between NLM and the administrators, trustees and medical staffs of hospitals to help us bring them the message that information service is an essential component of patient care.

Our second area of special interest and concern has to do with the provision of certain basic tools and mechanisms necessary to enable us to do our jobs in the most effective possible manner and to provide effective support for the vital base of the Network. We feel that NLM has not always recognized what these tools are at the hospital level and what a constructive difference it would make to us in hospital libraries to have some help in these areas. We refer particularly to financial and technical assistance for the development of subregional union lists and for collection development above the basic level in line with the needs of our various regions. Also included in this category would be training of librarians in the skills of leadership and management that will enable us to cooperate among ourselves more effectively and also make us more forceful spokesmen for the needs of libraries within our own institutions.

Hospital librarian awareness of and involvement in NLM planning can provide broad-based constituent support for total programming. This, however, implies NLM communication to the basic units so that we *can* be supportive.

We also want to go on record as strongly supporting the Regional Medical Library concept, although we recognize that the RML's at present function with varying degrees of effectiveness. We hope and expect that the input of hospital librarians into RML plans and programs will help them to effectively serve the needs of their regions.

We thank you again for inviting us, and for your cordiality, courtesy and frankness. We hope this meeting has been as fruitful for the staff of the National Library of Medicine as we know it has been for us.

Copyright Addendum

The copyright article in the December 1977 *NLM News* noted that individuals are authorized to make copies of articles reporting research conducted with funds from the U.S. Public Health Service. It should also have noted that individuals are not only authorized to make copies, but to "have made by any means available to them" copies of such works. This language, from the PHS Grants Policy Statement, is of importance to librarians, who are frequently called on to copy these works for their patrons or for interlibrary loan.

Reminder

Interlibrary loan request forms sent to NLM *must* indicate copyright compliance and carry the signature (or on TWX requests, the name) of the authorizing librarian. Requests incomplete in this respect will be returned unfilled. See December 1977 *News* for details.

Deaths of Two Former NLM Consultants

The Library recently lost two friends with the deaths in December and January of Lawrence G. Livingston and Chauncey D. Leake.

Mr. Livingston, a special NLM consultant during the early days of the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, died on December 26, 1977. He had been on the staff of the Council on Library Resources since 1968, and was active in bibliographic standards work, both national and international.

Dr. Leake, internationally known pharmacologist, medical historian, educator, and writer, died January 11, 1978. He had been a consultant to the Army Medical Library, serving as Chairman of the Library's "Honorary Consultants" in 1946. Dr. Leake was the author of hundreds of medical and scientific articles and books. He donated his papers to the National Library of Medicine.

Corning Elected to AAAS Post

Mary E. Corning, NLM Assistant Director for International Programs, has been elected Chairman of the Section on Information, Computing, and Communication (T) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). She will serve as Chairman-Elect beginning in 1978 and assume the Chairmanship of the Section in 1979. The Section is devoted to all aspects of communications in the disciplines represented by the AAAS and includes technology. In its area of specialty the Section promotes the work of the AAAS and is responsible for arranging presentations and programs at the AAAS meetings.

Dr. Anne Caldwell Retires

Anne E. Caldwell, M.D., search analyst in the Bibliographic Services Division, retired January 24, 1978, after more than 29 years of service with the National Library of Medicine. She joined the Army Medical Library in November 1948 and has worked in several areas of the Library as that institution evolved into the NLM.

Through her years at NLM, Dr. Caldwell has been extremely interested in the fields of psychopharmacology and psychiatry and has made several scientific contributions in these areas. Most significant are her book *Origins of Psychopharmacology* and the chapter "History of Pharmacology" in W.G. Clark's *Principles of Pharmacology*. Dr. Caldwell also teaches a course in scientific writing at the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, National Institutes of Health.

In her retirement, Dr. Caldwell expects to continue writing and teaching, and to pursue her life-long hobby of playing the cello.

Distinguished Educator Joins NLM During Sabbatical Leave

Dr. Gwendolyn S. Cruzat, Associate Professor in the School of Library Science, University of Michigan, has joined the staff of the Extramural Programs, NLM, during sabbatical leave from January 1 through April 30, 1978. Dr. Cruzat joins NLM under provisions of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970, which authorizes the temporary assignment of personnel between executive agencies of the Federal Government and institutions of higher education or state and local governments. While at NLM she will study ways to more closely connect library school education and research capabilities with key problems in health science librarianship. Dr. Cruzat will also work with NLM on ways to encourage greater minority participation in health science librarianship.

Dr. Cruzat received the M.S.L.S. from Atlanta University and the Ph.D. in Higher Education from Wayne State University. She teaches courses in health sciences librarianship and other topics at Michigan, and has published extensively. Her work experience includes service in hospital, public, and university libraries; and she acts as consultant to a wide variety of institutions and agencies, including the Bureau of Libraries, U.S. Office of Education. In 1977, Dr. Cruzat received the University of Michigan's Distinguished Faculty Service Award.

Publications Notes

Cumulated Abridged Index Medicus

The 1977 edition of *Cumulated Abridged Index Medicus* (Volume 8) may now be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Casebound, 1374 pp. $23.00 ($28.75 foreign). Stock Number 017-052-00188-4.

New Literature Searches

The Library has produced two new Literature Searches, available on request, containing recent citations on Health Maintenance Organizations and on the psychological aspects of cancer (see below). Copies of the new searches may be obtained by writing the Library's Literature Search Program, MEDLARS Management Section. Please order by title and LS number, and include a self-addressed gummed label with the request.

LS 77-16 *Health Maintenance Organizations.* February 1973 through November 1977. (Updates LS 73-5.) 373 citations in English.

LS 77-17 *Psychological aspects of cancer.* April 1973 through December 1977. (Updates LS 73-13.) 269 citations in English.

New TIRC Publications

The Toxicology Information Response Center (TIRC) is sponsored by NLM's Toxicology Information Program. TIRC (Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830) prepares individual literature searches on toxicological subjects and produces special annotated bibliographies which are sold through the National Technical Information Service (Springfield, Virginia 22161). Recent TIRC publications available from NTIS (see also *News*, December 1976 and April 1977) are:

- *Selected Case Histories and Epidemiological Examples of Human Mercury Poisoning.* I. State-of-the-Art Review. Herbert B. Gerstner and J. E. Huff. II. An Abstracted Literature Collection, 1947–1976. S. A. Black. ORNL/TIRC-77/1. 101 pages, 566 references, $20.00.

- *Methoxyflurane.* I. An Overview. E. M. Waters and B. E. Ricci. II. An Abstracted Literature Collection, 1947–1976. B. E. Ricci and E. M. Waters. ORNL/TIRC-77/2. 120 pages, 1,071 references, $22.50.

- *Health Aspects of Chloroform—A Review.* S. G. Winslow and H. B. Gerstner. *An Abstracted Literature Collection, 1907 to 1977.* ORNL/TIRC-77/4. S. G. Winslow. 252 pages, 1,387 references, $28.00

• *Asbestos: A Perspective.* I. An Overview. J. E. Huff. II. An Annotated Literature Collection, 1960–1974. J.E. Huff, A. S. Hammons, C. Y. Dinger, B. W. Kline, and B. L. Whitfield. III. An Abstracted Literature Collection, 1974–1977. S. A. Black. ORNL/TIRC-77/5. 867 references, $28.00

• *Toxicology Information Response Center Literature Search Index.* III. 2601-3100. ORNL/TIRC-77/6. 77 pages, 500 references, $7.50. IV. 3101-3600. ORNL/TIRC-78/1. 69 pages, 500 references, $9.00.

NMAC Self-instructional Manual

A new self-instructional manual titled *The Female Reproductive System* is now available from the National Technical Information Service (Springfield, Virginia 22161) for $5.25 ($3.00 microfiche). Order number PB-274-836. The manual was prepared for the Library's National Medical Audiovisual Center by Betsy A. Bampton, Associate Professor of Maternal-Child Nursing at the Medical College of Virginia of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. The 64-page booklet is designed for maternity nursing students.

Personnel Notes

Gains

• Robert Woodruff, Supervisory Office Machine Operator, Reference Services Division.
• Masako Orlando, Librarian, Technical Services Division
• Eleanor Kirk, Secretary, Reference Services Division
• Linda Irwin, Secretary, History of Medicine Division
• Estelle Abrams, Technical Information Specialist, Bibliographic Services Division

Loss

• Louise Gamage, Administrative Office, Extramural Programs

Annual Report Available

Single copies of *NLM Programs and Services, Fiscal Year 1977* may be obtained without charge from the Library's Office of Inquiries. *Please enclose a self-addressed mailing label with your request and mail to:*

Office of Inquiries
ATTN: REPORT
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